

The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 1886.

The Week.

THE strike of the Knights of Labor in the Southwest has now reached the point to which it has been plainly running from the start—an armed conflict with the governments of three, perhaps five, States. Great satisfaction is proclaimed by the so-called Executive Committees that they are again “united,” and that Mr. Powderly’s order to return to work has been rescinded. No right-thinking person can feel satisfaction while contemplating public tumult and probable bloodshed, but if there is a wide-spread conspiracy in the United States against law and order, no time can be considered too early for confronting it. By conspiracy we mean a secret society whose object is to prevent anybody but the conspirators from earning a living; not because they object to any man’s earning a living outside of the employments they are engaged in, but because they are unable to coerce employers if the unemployed are allowed to work when they see fit to strike. The situation in the Southwest has reached this pass, that nobody is allowed to represent Labor except those who refuse to work or allow anybody else to work. When a man has attained the full dignity of Labor, he must be prepared to shoot down any man more distressed and hungry than himself who applies for a situation that he has voluntarily given up. It happens in this particular case that the strikers had no reason that they were willing to avow for throwing up their situations. This, however, was only an incident growing out of the assumption that the right to labor belongs exclusively to the Knights of Labor, and that all persons who dispute this pretension must be shot down.

This has been the attitude of the strikers, under the lead of Irons, from the beginning. Mr. Powderly saw that it would end by bringing the Knights into armed collision with the State authorities, as at last it has in Texas, Kansas, and Arkansas, and will soon in Missouri and Illinois. The result of such a conflict cannot be doubtful. Some blood may be spilled, some houses may be burned, some dynamite may be exploded, but the end will be the crushing of the rebellion, and this end cannot be long delayed. The Governors of the several States have been very slow in performing their duty. They have been cowed by the supposed political power of the Knights. They have waited till the sufferings of the community have shifted the balance of political power upon the other side. It is probably true that public opinion in Texas was at first opposed to any harsh measures and in favor of persuasion and conciliation. While the striking Knights are only a handful in the whole State, the power which belongs to organization and secrecy had created a superstition in men’s minds, and for a moment paralyzed the reasoning powers of the

community, which never fairly awoke until it was found that a new government under the leadership of Irons had usurped the functions of the one elected by the people. Even then it was necessary that some profoundly impressive act should be committed, like the shooting of a deputy sheriff, to bring people to their senses, and to call into activity the forces which society has provided for just such emergencies.

The number of unemployed laborers in the country possessing more or less skill is always sufficient to man a railway, or a congeries of railways like the Gould Southwestern system, after a short time, if not prevented by violence from accepting the vacant places. The number of men who “went out” at the order of the Knights of Labor organization was only a trifle above five thousand. Mr. Martin Irons “claimed” a much larger number, putting it as high as 14,000 in one of his published statements, but this was shown by *Bradstreet’s* census of the unemployed in the several towns on the line to be a gross exaggeration. The whole number thrown out of employment on the Missouri-Pacific and the Texas-Pacific was about 10,000, and half of these were non-strikers, who were ready to resume work whenever they could be protected. Both these and the new-comers have been scarcely heard of in the discussions of the period. But, taken together, they are not only the more numerous body of men, the larger representation of labor, but by far the most deserving. The non-strikers, more than 4,000 in number, who have been thrown out of employment through no action or fault of their own, are certainly entitled to the sympathy which the public always accord to men suddenly deprived of the means of livelihood by accident, such as the burning of a factory or the bankruptcy of employers. The new-comers are always the most needy class in the community, since only the most needy will brave the perils which usually assail those who take the places of strikers. Yet it is customary in the dissertations and stump speeches to which such disorders give rise to ignore the existence of any “labor” except that of the strikers. In common parlance, everybody who labors or seeks labor, but does not strike, is a “scab,” a “rat,” a disgrace to society and unfit for American citizenship, whereas the majority of them are deterred from joining the Knights of Labor or other local organizations by the demagogical character of the local leaders of the unions, and by the repression of individual freedom which membership implies.

The difficulties which Mr. Powderly has had to contend with are a very valuable contribution to the discussion of all the great schemes of state socialism, not excepting Mr. Henry George’s land scheme. They all propose the starting of a business enterprise, such as the world never saw—that is, of a factory in which every man and woman in the nation would be an operative or dependent, and in which every product of human industry would be turned out, but they never say where the managers

of the concern are to be found. It would in magnitude bear about the same proportion to the greatest railroad corporation in the world that the German or French army bears to a corporal’s guard. Now it is with the greatest difficulty and by the offer of enormous salaries that the railroads find competent managers. Where are the managers of Socialistic States to be found? Who are they and where are they bred? What inducement is to be offered them for undertaking work that would land any mere man in the lunatic asylum in three months? We have no doubt Mr. Powderly has begun to ponder these questions himself. The trouble with the less thoughtful and intelligent Socialists is that the State which is to take care of the workingman, and raise his wages, and shield him from competition, always appears in their fancy as an all-wise and all-powerful person, who knows everything and can accomplish everything, without board, lodging, and washing, instead of being, as it really is, a group composed of Smith, Brown, Jones, White, Black, and Green, not one of whom probably could manage a large store, and all of whom are as anxious as anybody to be protected from competition and filled with good victuals at other people’s expense.

The Republican Senators are still floundering about in their effort to make a little party capital out of their controversy with the President over nominations, but it becomes daily more evident that Mr. Edmunds cannot hold them to the rule of rejecting men simply because they cannot get the “papers.” The otherwise profitless contest, however, is having one good result in emphasizing the absurdity of the “star-chamber” system of considering nominations in the Senate, and in strengthening the sentiment in favor of abolishing executive sessions. The canvassing of this question has revealed, more clearly than was before suspected, the outrageous character of this secret style of doing public business. For example, it has come out that one of the standing rules which govern the Senate in this branch of its duties is as follows:

“If, however, charges shall be made against a person nominated, the Committee may, in its discretion, notify such nominee thereof, but the name of the person making such charges shall not be disclosed.”

The Republican orators who have had so much to say about the “stabbing of character” involved in the President’s removal of office-holders evidently have full scope for their eloquence in reforming the rules of their own body.

The almost unanimous rejection by the Senate, on Wednesday week, of a newly appointed Democratic postmaster in a Western State, on the ground that he had been an “offensive partisan” during his brief official career, shows how generally the idea that “public office is a public trust” is coming to be accepted. Two years ago the man would have been laughed at who should have suggested that the utmost political activity on the part of a Federal office-holder constituted a reason for his removal from office. Now even Democratic Senators vote to

reject the nomination of a Democratic postmaster who has been running his office on a political basis, as Republican postmasters used to do without criticism from anybody except a few "doctrinaires."

A bill has been favorably reported authorizing the President to arrange for a conference with the states of South and Central America, for the purpose, among other things, of improving "the business intercourse" between the United States and these countries, and "encouraging such peaceful and reciprocal commercial relations as will be beneficial to all, and secure more extensive markets for the surplus products of each of said countries." We trust that if the bill passes, the President will remember that no arrangement about commercial intercourse will be satisfactory which does not provide that each country shall sell more than it buys, and shall receive more gold or silver from the other countries than it parts with. If this is not looked after, each country will soon have "the balance of trade against it" and all its gold going abroad. The consequence of having the balance of trade against every country on both the American continents would be very terrible, and we shall not attempt to describe it further than by saying that it would probably afford the European despots the opportunity which they have been long waiting for. The Conference, when it comes off, is to cost \$20,000, which is cheap enough if it were to do any good: but a conference to promote commercial intercourse with foreigners is surely something the American people will not have at any price. A \$5 conference held with that end in view would be dear.

The recent attempt to double the rate of postage on seeds and other articles of "fourth-class matter," is a striking instance of the small pains taken by some lawmakers to know the operation of existing laws or the real needs of the people. Prior to 1872 the fourth-class postage rate was eight cents per pound; the existing rate is sixteen cents per pound. The bill introduced by Senator Wilson would double this and make the postage thirty-two cents per pound. In Canada the postage on this class of mail matter is four cents per pound, while in England it is six cents per pound for the first pound, and less than four cents where the packages are over one pound. In other European countries equally low rates prevail. The proposed bill must have been introduced in ignorance of these facts, or without consideration or regard for the effect it would have on the agricultural interests of the country. Proof of this is found in the fact that the Senator who introduced this bill doubling the fourth-class postage has now introduced another one reducing the rate one-half, evidently acting under pressure of the strong public opinion freely expressed throughout the country. There seems now to be little doubt that the rate of postage on this class of goods will not be increased; indeed, it is probable that before long seeds and scions will be distributed at a cost even less than heretofore, and a little nearer the prevailing rates of postage in other countries.

We are pained to observe that the Gloucester fishermen are not taking their medicine so manfully as might be desired. They held a public meeting at the Parker House in Boston on Friday, to denounce the unfriendly action of the Dominion authorities in preventing them from shipping Canadian sailors in Canadian ports in the customary way for the season's work. Protection to American industry requires an unrestricted supply of foreign labor. What is a duty on fish good for if our captains are to be taxed three or four dollars per head for all the men they hire in Nova Scotia to work their vessels? The meeting demanded retaliatory legislation to prohibit Canadian vessels from coming into our ports. They called on the President to send "a sufficient number of armed vessels" to the fishing grounds, to "look after and protect American vessels." In regard to the headland dispute, they proposed to make a test question at once by having an American vessel seized by a Canadian cruiser, and then calling on the Government to demand satisfaction. This unseemly preparation for hostilities for which the American people are to pay the costs, is on foot, as the resolutions of the meeting state, "for the reclamation of their home markets to the uses of American fishermen." Instead of peace and good will among men which have ruled for more than ten years along the northeastern boundaries and waters, we are to have cruisers making seizures of fishing smacks, upon our own procurement, in order to make a test case for claims for damages, and we are to get into as great a snarl as possible and as speedily as possible over a duty of one cent per pound on dried fish. But that is not all. It was the opinion of Mr. R. S. Spofford that a similar duty should be imposed on fresh fish, and that a delegation should be sent to the lake fishermen to induce them to combine for the purpose of bringing influence to bear upon Congress to this end. An American fishery union should be formed to promote the taxation of fish.

The proposition to put an American vessel in the way of being captured by a British cruiser in order to bring on an international difficulty is extremely brazen, and could only be avowed by persons who have come to look upon the tariff as a matter of religious faith, or as part and parcel of the common rights of man. Something of this spirit lurks in a recent article on the fisheries question by Theodore S. Woolsey, in which the argument is quite faultless if one concedes that a protecting duty is among the indefeasible rights of a fisherman, like life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. The class of people who are opposed to the whole system of mutual robbery, and especially to that part of it which relates to the people's food, will not find any common standpoint with Mr. Woolsey, or with Mr. Spofford, or with Judge Woodbury. Even those who are indifferent as to the tariff controversy will be likely to ask what has happened lately to bring us into hot water with a friendly and kindred Power, with whom we have been at peace so many years. When they find that it is all about a beggarly duty on codfish they will, perhaps, think that it is

better to repeal the duty than to have any international trouble at all. As regards the proposed martyrdom of an American fishing-smack, which is to be thrust into the jaws of a British cruiser, we presume that Secretary Bayard will at once, when the case comes before him, propose arbitration. Our judicial decisions and those of Canada on the headland question run so nearly parallel with each other that we should be much embarrassed to decide the test case without the moral support of an impartial umpire. Out of deference to the feelings of Mr. Blaine, it might be stipulated that we should not accept the late Minister of Belgium as a referee.

The death of Judge John Baxter last week is of especial public interest at the present time, owing to the fact that the Government suit to annul the Bell telephone patent has lately been begun at Columbus, O., in the circuit of the United States Court over which Judge Baxter presided. It has for some time been an open secret among the profession that Judge Baxter had strong sentiments against letters patent, and it needed to be a very clear case of infringement to secure success before him. So prevalent had become the feeling about his views in this particular that many suits were discontinued in his circuit, and few were begun there, the owners of patents preferring to allow infringement to go on unmolested in that district rather than to risk their rights in a suit, although their patents may have been sustained in other circuits. Under these circumstances the appointment of a successor to Judge Baxter by the President will be looked for with considerable interest.

The amount of work done by the judges of the United States Courts and the small compensation awarded them in salary have long been a subject of public discussion. It is now some years since a committee of the American Bar Association, after thorough consideration of the subject, reported a plan which would serve as a basis for a bill to relieve the Supreme Court and the Circuit Courts from the existing pressure of business, and several bills have been introduced for that purpose, but nothing of practical importance has yet been done by Congress. The sudden and unexpected death of Judge Baxter should bring the subject again into prominence and demand attention. The circuit over which Judge Baxter presided extends from Tennessee to Michigan, and his position required the performance of a vast amount of judicial labor. Aside from slight lameness, Judge Baxter was a man of robust health and energetic temperament, and his unexpected death was in all probability indirectly, if not directly, due to overwork. Of the United States judges in that circuit district, Judge Withey has for some time been too ill for service, and is trying to regain his lost health; Judge Brown, the District Judge at Detroit, has been so overworked that he is unable to leave his home to attend to court business, and according to last reports will not be well enough to hold court for some time to come. The death of Judge Baxter therefore leaves the United States Courts in Michigan without any judge to try causes or attend to court business

until his successor is appointed. In our own district, here in New York, it has become quite the practice for United States judges from Vermont, Connecticut, Northern New York, and Brooklyn, to assist in the disposition of cases which constantly accumulate upon the calendar, and all this judicial labor is performed for a salary less than one-half that paid the judge of our City Court. But a still worse state of affairs exists in the mass of business heaped upon the Supreme Court by the great and increasing number of causes coming up on appeal from the different circuit courts sitting in the various States. Suits involving questions of the greatest importance to the commercial and manufacturing interests of the country, in many instances, become almost matters of history before they can be reached in regular order and decided by the Supreme Court at Washington. This subject has been so long under consideration by Congress that there is doubtless now before the Judiciary Committee some feasible plan for the relief of the United States Courts, and the public interest requires that such a plan should be embodied in a law without delay.

Mayor O'Brien, of Boston, has again vindicated the confidence of his supporters that he would treat public questions submitted to him on a common-sense basis. The City Council recently passed an order that every laboring man employed by the municipality should receive a full day's pay for eight hours of work, after the 1st of May. A demagogue in the Mayor's chair would have promptly approved such a measure, especially when it had been supported by almost every member of his party in both branches of the Council. But Mr. O'Brien insisted upon examining into the matter. He applied to the Corporation Counsel for an opinion as to the legality of the proposed ordinance, and asked the head of each department for an estimate as to the additional expense of the eight-hour system. Investigation showed that the change would increase the cost of running the city government by about a million and a half dollars a year, which would involve not only a higher tax rate, but the repeal of the law passed by the Legislature limiting the rate of taxation in Boston, while the Corporation Counsel gave his opinion that under the new city charter the Council had no right to make so radical a change in the executive work of the different departments. The Mayor therefore returned the order without his signature, with a clear statement of its illegality and impracticability, and with the suggestion that the only feasible thing to do was to ask the Legislature for the changes in law required to render the change possible. Considering the strong temptation there was for him to content himself with signing the order and leaving the future to expose its weakness, Mr. O'Brien's course in this matter is most creditable to him.

Mayor Grace has made the gratifying announcement that in selecting new Excise Commissioners he will not appoint any one connected with the liquor or beer interest. He said that he had been requested to appoint "one

man for the brewers, one for the liquor interest, and one outsider" to compose the new Board, and had declined the proposition. This was about the same composition as the present Board, which contained two members who refused to act with the third "because he was not in sympathy with the liquor interest." The curious notion that the Excise Board is designed not to limit and control the liquor traffic, but to encourage it, and if necessary shield it from the harshness of the excise laws, is a prevalent one in liquor circles, and is a perfectly natural outgrowth of the way in which the laws have been executed for many years. The Mayor is trying to change this by putting a different kind of men upon the Excise Board, but he will be prevented in his worthy intentions unless the Assembly makes haste to pass the bill for removing from the Aldermen all voice in the selections. The idea that the Aldermen would exercise a reforming influence in matters relating to the liquor traffic is so preposterous that we should think the Assembly would be ashamed to entertain it for a moment.

The Portland *Oregonian*, which certainly has enjoyed ample opportunities for forming a correct judgment, sums up thus briefly its conclusions as to the really effective way of stopping the anti-Chinese war on the Pacific Coast:

"If the Chinaman can be taught to drink whiskey, given the right to vote, and induced to spend his money in the vile drinking holes, the 'agitation' against him will cease at once. He will then be accepted without further struggle as the associate and equal of Cronen, Hamilton, Cradlebaugh, Baker, Gilson, and the other 'champions of labor,' and the 'Anti-Coolie Association' will disband."

We commend this opening for missionary work to the reverend gentleman who, it was recently announced, had become agent of the league organized in California to drive the "heathen" out of this Christian land.

The internal dissensions which are said to exist within the ranks of the Irish party in this country are not very serious. All the trouble comes from the dynamite faction, which is led by such professional agitators as the *Irish World*, Alexander Sullivan, and Patrick Egan. From the moment that Mr. Parnell began to show faith in Mr. Gladstone's plans for home rule, these agitators have held aloof from him. They took no part in the recent effort which was made to send money to him from this country. They have been able, through their control of the organization, to postpone indefinitely the holding of a National League Convention, thus preventing any approval of Parnell's course which such a convention would be certain to give. They have refused to place any faith in Gladstone's sincerity, and have persistently argued that anything less than complete separation between England and Ireland should be rejected by the Irish. Yet they are only a noisy minority of the Irish-American party. Their recent efforts to raise funds for various purposes have been complete failures. They cannot deceive the ignorant masses of their own party any longer, and it is now plain that they cannot deceive Mr. Parnell, for word is cabled from Dublin that he is "making arrangements to collect funds in America irrespective of the League agents."

Nothing has ever done more to repel American sympathy from Ireland than the prominence of the dynamite agitators in the Irish party here, and their open rejection by Parnell would be a great gain for his cause in the estimation of the American people.

The signs of war in the Balkan Peninsula steadily multiply. Greece has not only not disarmed, but has continued to increase her forces. Turkey has been straining every nerve all the winter to get ready for her, and Prince Alexander, of Bulgaria, has steadily refused to acquiesce in the temporary, instead of the permanent, union of Bulgaria and Rumelia, which Russia insists on as some sort of precaution against what she most dreads, the growth of a powerful and independent State between her and Constantinople. Accordingly she now proposes to punish his obstinacy by occupying Bulgaria, which would, of course, be a direct violation of the Treaty of Berlin. That Germany would stand this is very unlikely. It is still more unlikely that Austria will stand it, or will not occupy Servia on the smallest sign of a Russian invasion of Bulgaria. The materials for a great blaze of war, in fact, seem to be all prepared.

By a curious small coincidence, both the *London Spectator* and the *Saturday Review* for March 20, not prompted by the same topic, contain precisely similar observations upon a dangerous form of conceit to which the collectors of paintings, china, bric-à-brac, etc., are subject. It is the tendency to go off at score with a self-created idea of their own good judgment, and never to learn anything afterward; to depend upon a purely imaginary power of discernment, without improving knowledge by study, or even without recognizing the need of studying; and, moreover, to back the cherished opinion with great sums of money, to the ultimate confusion and disappointment of their heirs. The *Saturday Review* says:

"Forgetting that, as a rule, a good thing will fetch very nearly, if not quite, its full value, they imagine that bargains are to be had much more often than is the case; and they commit the further mistake of persuading themselves that everything they have bought is much more beautiful, and more genuine, and more valuable than it ever was before."

The *Spectator* justly remarks that this foible may be noted also among buyers of horses and of stocks, and asks why such men do not know their own ignorance, and are self-deceived. The answer to this question it finds somewhat elaborately in the working of two passions—vanity and greed. The *Saturday Review*, it will be observed, slightly connotes the latter cause. Yet the case is probably simpler than this. Greed sharpens the dealer's perceptions and rectifies his judgment, and should perform the same office for the collector. On the other hand, vanity is practically non-existent with the dealer. We doubt if even in stocks greed has much to do with the delusion over "sure things"; it is much more likely to be vanity about one's special means of "information," or conceit of one's "judgment." The collector's besetting danger is only the weakness which makes nearly every man believe that he rides at least tolerably well, and is a "fair" shot.

SUMMARY OF THE WEEK'S NEWS.

[WEDNESDAY, March 31, to TUESDAY, April 6, 1886, inclusive.]

DOMESTIC.

THE Senate on Thursday passed the bill appropriating \$500,000 for a monument to Lincoln at Washington.

In the Senate, on Monday Mr. Frye sharply criticised the course of the State Department on the fisheries questions, and its decision that American vessels were now bound by the provisions of the Treaty of 1818. He was only waiting, he said, for the seizure of some American fishing vessel by Canadian cruisers, which would probably happen within a week, when he would introduce a ten-line bill barring out Canadian vessels from American ports, and ask the Senate to put itself on record in support of that proposition. On Tuesday the Arbitration Bill passed by the House was favorably reported to the Senate.

Mr. W. L. Trenholm was confirmed by the Senate on Monday as Comptroller of the Currency.

The nomination of Mr. Lyman for Civil-Service Commissioner was reported favorably some days ago. The name of Mr. Oberly is also before the Senate. Mr. Edgerton is alone now on the Commission and is overworked. The delay in confirming the two new Commissioners is the occasion of embarrassment, as there are questions pressing which cannot be taken up while these nominations are held in suspense.

Caleb W. West, of Kentucky, was on Monday nominated by the President to be Governor of Utah Territory. He served in the Confederate army and has been a county judge. Speaker Carlisle recommended him.

The President on Friday nominated Col. Thomas H. Ruger, of the Eighteenth Infantry, to be Brigadier-General in place of General Terry, and Col. Joseph H. Potter, of the Twenty-fourth Infantry, to be Brigadier-General in place of Gen. O. O. Howard.

A caucus of Republican Senators on Friday without reaching a vote made it evident that a majority are opposed to Senator Edmunds's course, and will practically ignore his resolutions in dealing with nominations. There were also very strong expressions of opinion in favor of doing away with secret sessions.

The House of Representatives on Saturday passed the Labor-Arbitration Bill by 195 to 30. It was modified so that arbitration is optional, and the Government pays the expenses up to \$1,000 for each case.

The Ways and Means Committee on Saturday took up the Hewitt Customs Bill, and added to it the free list of the Morrison bill so far as it applies to lumber, fish, salt, flax, and hemp. Wool was also added to the free list. Under the head of dutiable goods the chemical cotton schedules of the Morrison bill were added, with amendments relating to fine qualities of cotton goods, and the sugar duties were reduced 10 per cent.

The House passed on Monday the bill for a Congressional library building. The cost of it is limited to \$550,000.

The House on Monday afternoon passed the Mexican War Pension Bill by 158 to 68. Mr. Dingley (Rep., Me.) introduced the following resolution: "That the President be requested to furnish the House with any information in his possession relative to the exclusion of American fishing vessels from the right to enter ports of entry of the Dominion of Canada for the purpose of trading, purchasing supplies, or landing fish caught in deep water for shipment in bond to the United States, or doing other acts which Canadian or other British vessels are freely permitted to do in ports of the United States; and also to inform the House what steps have been taken, or are

proposed, to bring such unwarrantable acts of the Dominion authorities to the attention of the British Government."

The public-debt statement shows a decrease of \$14,087,884 in March.

Geronimo, the Apache chief, with twenty other Indians, has escaped from Lieutenant Maus's custody.

General Miles has been transferred to General Crook's department in the Southwest. General Crook will relieve General Howard of the command of the Department of the Platte, the latter taking command of the Division of the Pacific.

An alarming incident of the strike occurred on Saturday. A Missouri-Pacific freight train left Fort Worth, Texas, in charge of twenty armed deputies. Two miles from the city it stopped on meeting a party of men, who were asked what they were doing; to which they replied that they were not armed, and had no intention of interfering with the road. As the officers returned to the cars they noticed several men sitting or lying on the grass a few yards from the train. The entire posse advanced toward the men in ambush until they reached the ditch alongside the track, when they commanded a throwing up of hands. The men in ambush then opened fire with Winchester rifles, killing one deputy and badly wounding two others. The fire was returned by the posse with revolvers. One rioter is known to have been killed and two wounded. There was intense excitement in Fort Worth on Sunday night, and many citizens were under arms. Several companies of militia and one battery have arrived there. Some of the prominent citizens are in favor of organizing a vigilance committee and hanging the leaders of the anti-law element. It is stated that these leaders have made out a list of houses to be pillaged and burned in case the strike is not settled peaceably. On Monday quiet was in a measure restored, and maintained by the militia.

The Missouri-Pacific officers refused to take the striking Knights of Labor back as a body, but considered their applications individually. This delayed the final settlement of the Gould system strike, though many freight trains were run without interruption. On Friday Vice-President Hoxie telegraphed to Mr. Gould: "While there may still be some trouble at a few points, I think that the worst is over. Things may not run smoothly for some days, but I have plenty of force to run trains and do repairs, and I am gradually recruiting my force with new men." By Saturday freight was moving from St. Louis in almost normal quantities. The blockade still continues at East St. Louis, where the strikers are very determined.

At St. Louis trains were freely running on Monday, although Mr. Hoxie had failed to reach any agreement with Messrs. Turner and Bailey, of the Knights of Labor. At East St. Louis the blockade continues, and more trouble is apprehended. The whole situation was further complicated by an order issued by the General Executive Board early Monday morning, recalling the order which directed the men to return to work. The reason for this action was Mr. Hoxie's refusal to take back all the Knights or to treat with their order as a body.

A sensation was created in political circles in this city on Thursday, when it became known that ex-Alderman Waite had made a statement to the District Attorney involving a number of members of the Board of 1884 in the Broadway franchise scandal. As a result William P. Kirk, who was President of the Board in 1884, was arrested on Thursday evening, and ex-Alderman Pearson on Friday, charged with bribery. Ex-Alderman Fullgraff is allowed his liberty, it is said, only on condition that he will give certain testimony which is in his possession.

FOREIGN.

The British Cabinet on Thursday discussed the scheme of buying out Irish landlords. In consequence of the unfavorable attitude of the Scotch Liberal Association, Mr. Gladstone proposed to modify his project in several particulars, but no agreement could be reached by the Cabinet.

Mr. James Stansfeld, the new Secretary for Scotland, in his address to the electors of Halifax, asking reflection to the seat in Parliament made vacant by his acceptance of office, says he agrees with the principles enunciated by Mr. Gladstone in his Midlothian platform, and is resolved to assist the Premier in the work of practically realizing those principles. He has been reflected.

A great mass-meeting was held in London on Friday afternoon in Guildhall to protest against the granting of a Parliament to Ireland. The Lord Mayor presided. Sir John Lubbock (Liberal), member of Parliament for London University, moved the adoption of a resolution condemning Mr. Gladstone for his intention of "handing Ireland over to Mr. Parnell, whom he previously denounced." A workman arose and offered an amendment to Sir John Lubbock's resolution, but he was howled down, and the resolution was carried amid wild enthusiasm. But 200 persons in the immense audience voted in the negative. The name of Gladstone was repeatedly and vigorously hissed.

The British Conservatives are making strenuous efforts to form a coalition of the Whigs against Gladstone. Lord Hartington had a long interview with the Queen on Tuesday and also with Lord Salisbury.

Mr. Gladstone, on Tuesday afternoon, submitted his home-rule scheme to the Cabinet. It was reported that the discussion which followed resulted in continuing the Ministerial opposition to certain features of the Premier's proposals. The Earl of Kimberley, Secretary for India; Mr. Childers, Home Secretary; Sir William Vernon Harcourt, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr. Mundella, President of the Board of Trade, were, it was said, as much opposed as ever to that feature which surrenders control of the customs in Ireland. Later in the day, however, it was announced that the Cabinet feud had abated. Mr. Gladstone modified his proposals regarding customs control, by giving the English Parliament the right to veto all fiscal enactments of Ireland, providing that an imperial Receiver shall collect customs and excise, and making imperial claims the first charges on the revenues. The malcontents consequently withheld their resignations.

The following outline is given with reserve: Mr. Gladstone proposes the establishment at Dublin of a statutory Irish National Parliament of a single chamber, elected largely by the same franchise as the existing representation in Parliament. Special guarantees will be taken to secure the presence of an adequate proportion of Protestant members. Mr. Parnell agrees to an arrangement by which at least 75 out of a House of 300 members will be allotted to the Protestants. To this Parliament will be handed over the whole administration of Ireland, together with the exclusive right to legislate on Irish affairs. An Irish Ministry will control the magistrates and police, undertake the enforcement of the law, and have supreme authority over all Irish affairs, except the military forces of the Crown, which will remain under the exclusive control of the Viceroy. The Viceroy will be appointed by the Crown, and will probably be non-political, as is the Viceroy of India. The existing constabulary, as an armed and drilled military force, will be under the direct orders of the Viceroy, as will be the other imperial troops garrisoned in Ireland. The statutory Parliament will impose, remit, and collect all taxes levied in Ireland, and defray from the same the cost of the local administration. The new body is forbidden